

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter. [Use ~~striketrough~~ for deleted matter and underlined for added matter.]

Claims:

1. (Original) A tracking system for receiving images from a plurality of cameras, each at one of a plurality of locations at which one or more of a plurality of movable subjects or items may be located, each of said cameras being arranged to capture images at said respective location, the system comprising a plurality of remote access points, each of which is allotted to a different one or subset of said plurality of movable subjects or items, from each of which remote access points images of the movable subject or item to which it is allotted captured by said plurality of cameras can be viewed in real time or near-real time and/or recorded, and locating apparatus for determining a first location of a movable subject or item, selecting a first camera at said first location and linking the output of said first camera to the remote access point allotted to the said movable subject or item, and for determining when the said movable subject or item moves from said first location to a second location, selecting a second camera at said second location and linking the output of said second camera to the remote access point allotted to the said movable subject or item.
2. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, wherein when a remote access point is accessed, the locating apparatus is arranged to search the images being captured by said cameras to determine the locations of the subjects or items to which said remote access point is allotted.
3. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, wherein said locating apparatus is arranged to track the movable subjects or items and selectively link the outputs of the appropriate cameras to the respective remote access points allotted thereto, irrespective of whether or not said remote access points are being accessed.

4. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, comprising a central database containing details of a plurality of subjects or items of interest together with their respective allotted remote access points, and/or details of said cameras together with their respective locations.
5. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, wherein said locating apparatus is arranged to determine the location of a subject or item by identifying a visually recognisable feature thereof in the images captured by said cameras.
6. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, wherein said subject or item of interest is provided with an electronic tag, and said locating apparatus is arranged to determine the location of the subject or item of interest by determining the location of the electronic tag.
7. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, wherein said locating apparatus is arranged to determine the location of said subject or item of interest and, in the event that there are two or more cameras associated with said location, link the outputs of said two or more cameras to said remote access point.
8. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 7, comprising selection apparatus for selecting to view one of said two or more outputs linked to said remote access point.
9. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, comprising apparatus for altering the field of view of the camera whose output is linked to said remote access point and/or comprising apparatus to provide a link to a selected area of modified level of detail of the view.
10. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, wherein said remote access point is accessible only to one or more authorised users.

11. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, comprising recording apparatus for selectively recording the camera output or outputs linked to a remote access point.

12. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, comprising alarm apparatus arranged to be actuated in the event that a subject or item of interest moves to a location outside a predetermined area.

13. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, wherein a single remote access point can be used to track two or more subjects or items of interest.

14. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, comprising an attention controller arranged to monitor the outputs of said plurality of cameras, determine the presence in said outputs of one or more subjects or items of interest and link the camera output or outputs in which said subject(s) or item(s) are present to the respective remote access point(s) allotted to said subject(s) or item(s).

15. (Original) A tracking system according to claim 1, wherein in the event that two or more of said plurality of movable subjects or items to which two or more respective access points are allotted are determined by said locating apparatus to be at the same location, the output of the camera at that location can be linked to both or all of said two or more respective access points.

16. (New) A tracking system, comprising:
a plurality of remote access points, each remote access point accessible by one of a plurality of users assigned to that remote access point; and
an attention controller arranged to:
monitor outputs of a plurality of cameras;
arranged to determine the presence in said outputs of a plurality of different subjects or items of interest;
arranged to associate each of said subjects or items of interest with one of said remote access points; and

arranged to selectively link at least one output associated with a first one of said subjects or items of interest to the associated remote access point, and to selectively link at least one output associated with a second one of said subjects or items of interest to another remote access point, such that a user assigned to their remote access point monitors the respective subjects or items of interest associated with their remote access point.

17. (New) A tracking system according to claim 16, wherein the access points are associated with URLs.

18. (New) A method for tracking subjects or items of interest via a plurality of remote access points, comprising:

associating a first subject or item with a first remote access point accessible by one of a plurality of users assigned to the first remote access point;

associating a second subject or item with a second remote access point accessible by another one of a plurality of users assigned to the second remote access point;

monitoring outputs of a plurality of cameras;

determining presence in the outputs of first and second subject or item of interest;

selectively linking at least one output associated with the first subject or item of interest to the associated first remote access point; and

selectively linking at least one output associated with the second subject or item of interest to the associated second remote access point,

such that a user assigned to the first remote access point monitors the first subject or item of interest associated with the first remote access point, and such that another user assigned to the second remote access point monitors the second subject or item of interest associated with the second remote access point.

19. (New) A method according to claim 18, further comprising:

tracking the first subject or item of interest associated with the first remote access point as the first subject or item of interest moves among a plurality of camera views; and

tracking the second subject or item of interest associated with the second remote access point as the second subject or item of interest moves among the plurality of camera views.

20. (New) A method according to claim 18, wherein the access points are associated with URLs such that the user assigned to the first remote access point monitors the first subject or item of interest associated with the first remote access point via the Internet, and such that another user assigned to the second remote access point monitors the second subject or item of interest associated with the second remote access point via the Internet.